

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 10/050,573
Attorney Docket No.: Q66582

REMARKS

Claims 3, 8-12, 15-17, 21, and 22 are all the claims pending in the Application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claim 3 to include the features of the allowable claim 4 and rewrites allowable claim 11 into its independent form. In addition, Applicant cancels all of the rejected claims 1, 2, 4-7, 13, 14, 18-20, 23, and 24.

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12 and 15-24 presently stand rejected and claims 4 and 11 contain allowable subject matter. By this Amendment, Applicant places this application in condition for immediate allowance.

Specifically, Applicant does not acquiesce to the Examiner's reasons for allowance. However, to expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application and without commenting on the substantive merits of the Examiner's rejections, Applicant rewrites allowable claim 4 into its independent form, which is now amended claim 3 and rewrites the allowable claim 11 into its independent form. Accordingly, as acknowledged by the Examiner, independent claims 3 and 11 are allowable. Claims 8-10, 12, 15-17, 21, and 22 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 3. The rejected claims 1, 2, 5-7, 18-20, 23, and 24 have been cancelled.

In view of the above, reconsideration and immediate allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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